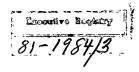
The Director Central Intelligence Agency





Washington, D. C. 20505

30 October 1981

Dear Dave,

I think our respective staffs are trying to involve you and me in some sort of a sharp debate over CIA's FY 1981 personnel ceiling. At the end of September, your staff apparently slipped a very stiff letter to me through you concerning CIA's personnel ceiling. (A copy is enclosed.) In response, my staff has asked me to sign an equally stiff response to you which I also enclose.

I really don't think we even have a problem. Because of some fairly stringent measures, CIA on 30 September was within its Congessional ceiling. More importantly, I see no benefit in you and I wrangling over a moot issue or continuing an unproductive and provocative exchange of correspondence. I have not signed the enclosed draft letter and other than this note do not plan to give you a formal response to your letter of 30 September. I do suggest, however, that we both speak directly to our staffs about the damaging effect of such correspondence on productive working relationships between us and between our agencies.

William J. Casey

The Honorable David A. Stockman Director, Office of Management and Budget Washington, D.C. 20503 Menun